

## ABSTRACT

A spare area 12 is divided into partial spare areas 12A to 12D, and a defect list 15 is divided into partial defect lists 15A to 15D, 5 with the partial spare areas 12A to 12D corresponding to the partial defect lists 15A to 15D, respectively. When a defect is detected, only the partial defect list updated by the detection is recorded into the defect management area of a recording medium 10.